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A SHORT PLEA FOR THE Common-wealth, IN This monstrous and shaking Juncture, wherein *Treason* is scarcely ac- counted an offence, and *Traitors* have so manie Advocates.

Published for the Safetie of the State, and the undeceiving
of the people, by a friend to Justice and the
Common-wealth.

It is better one man should perish, then the whole bee destroied.

*Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily; therefore the heart of the
sons of men is fully set in them to do evil, Eccles. 8. 11.*



London,

Printed by William Du-Gard. July 11. Anno Domini, 1651.

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Amo 5.3610

А
ГНОЯ ПРЯПА

ЭН ТЯ ОН

Compton-Wesley

И

гнездо в бореальной зоне, а в Тайване и на Филиппинах в тропиках.

Самка сидит на гнезде и выкармливает птенцов.

Летом гнездится в северной Европе, на севере Азии, в Сибири, на Дальнем Востоке.

Самка сидит на гнезде и выкармливает птенцов.



A SHORT PLEA FOR THE Common-wealth, &c. Discovering the Treasonable practises of Mr LOVE and his Confederates against it.



T grieves mee exceedingly that the desperate follie and madnes of this age (wherein men account Treason a virtue, and to solicite for Traitors Pietie and Religion) should enforce my pen to paper, especially at this time, when the blood of the manie thousands shed since this last Engagement in Scotland (so fresh in memorie) the Armies beeing readie again to engage upon the same quarrel, and the saetie of the Common-wealth so desperately endangered with the black attendants of a cruel War (the sad effects of these Treasons) call's rather to all honest men to gird their swords on their thighs, and prevent the destruction that is at the door, then to seek the diverting of Justice, and the execution thereof upon the convict Instruments of this miserable Calamitie, whom the verie finger of God hath pointed out by a providential discoverie beyond example: for whose Treason the High Court of Justice have sentenc'd one of them to death; and whose Impunitie will be the greatest blow to the saetie of the Common-wealth that it yet hath received; the serious consideration whereof hath alarmed my heart, and as the dumb childe somtime spake when hee saw the

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going to kill his father, so am I enforced to cry out, Men, brethren and Fathers bring not upon your selves the blood of the War in Scotland, and do not by such Presidents destroy the safety of the Common-wealth.

The question now is not whether the mercie of the State should bee extended to Mr Love who is found guiltie of raising this War in Scotland, and who hath stoutly it out to the utmost at the High Court of Justice ; and in his Petition to the Parliament for his life , not owning the Laws by which hee was judged to bee the Laws of the Land or such as were just , but [your] Laws : an imparallel'd piece of contumacie, and which never in the like case anie dared to present to the Parliament : I say, the question is not whether the mercie of the State should bee extended to Mr Love , because a godlie man, a Minister, and hath formerly served the Parliament ; but whether mercie should not bee first extended to the State for its safetie (which hath been from its very birth designed to destruction by intestine plots and Treasons multiplied upon it, and by open Wars (in which Mr Love appear's to bee a principal actor, and hee and his Confederates a chief caus of these engagements of blood and mischief) whether the blood of the manie thousands shed already in these designs ought not to bee expiated : whether the bowels of compassion towards the lives of the manie hundreds of thousands of innocent persons, and the very beeing of this Common-wealth and Nation, (which no man knows but this War may burie in its grave, and put to a period) should not bee exercised, whether the foundations of Government, and the Principles on which the being of humane society do depend, which these mens Practices do utterly overthrow , should not bee preserved, and may not challenge from this State in the first place it's tenderness and compassion, and Justice upon the heads of those whose principles and practices have laid the Axe to the root of this Government, put the safety thereof to that great hazard it is in at this day, shed the bloud of those that have been slain in this Scottish Engagement, laid the foundation and so far assisted the proceeds of this war, which may terminate this Nation, and do overthrow the Principles of humane society, and whether any man may bee so prodigal of the safety of the Common-wealth, as to lay such Presidents of favor and compassion, so bold with the Laws of the Land and the Justice of the State, as to endeavour to put by the Execution thereof, and with the bloud of those that have been slain, ruin'd and suffred the other miseries of this war, as to hinder what the Word of God, and the Law of this Nation doth require. I am sure the late King, which was called *Pater Patrie*, & in whom the Administration of Justice in this Nation sometime did reside, was not own'd in such unwarranted practices, as to protect offenders from Justice, and to destroy the safety of the People whom he should protect: but for so doing had Justice executed upon himself as a Traitor by this present Parliament : in which Eminent and Impartial act the foundation of this Government was established, and according to which president, wee trust the Parliament

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Parlement will make their future proceedings, Justice and Righteouſtēſſe being
that which indeed exalts a Nation.

But that I may not seem to beat the airy and lay this discourse without any
bottom, let the Reader bee pleas'd to consider briefly

1. What the Treasons hinted at are, and the effects of them.
2. How far they concern Mr Love, and his demeanor upon Examination,
Tryal, Sentence, and his Application to the Parliament.
3. What Party this case respects, their deportment *ab Initio*, their influence,
number, opportunities, and principles.

4. The danger of the Common-wealth as to all.

1. For the Treasons, they are no less then a combination with the Scots,
and *Charls Stuart*, Son to the late Tyrant, to bring him in as King of England;
for which purpose the Scots upon the Execution of the late King, send to the
Traytors concern'd herein, that they intend to apply themſelvſ to the King,
wherein they will consider the Presbyterian party here as themſelvſ; that the
foundation of the Agreement ſhould bee the Covenant; defire a conſtant cor-
reſpondency and good understanding between thoſe here and in Scotland.
This occaſioned the firſt meetings of theſe Traitors here, where the graciouſ
diſpoſition of the Prince was mentioned, how that Loialty and the ſenſe of
theſe ſufferings engaged them to attempt ſomthing on his behalf, if ſo bee
hee would close with the Scots and take the Covenant; and which produced
the firſt treaty, at the *Hague*.

That Treaty bringing forth nothing, the King of Scots ſends to theſe here, to
aſſure them, that if they could obtain another Treaty between him and the
Scots, and the Scots to moderate their Propoſitions, hee would give ſatisfac-
tion to the Scots, &c.

Hereupon theſe ſend to the Scots to make another application to the King,
and to moderate their Propoſitions.

The Scots return, that they would make another Application to the King,
but it ſhould bee on the ſame terms, the former breach at the *Hague* occaſioning
rather the heightning of their Propoſitions, then the moderating thereof, but
adviſeth theſe to make uſe of their Interēſt with the King to give them ſatis-
faction.

Hereupon theſe meet, conſider of, conſclude, and ſend a Petition to the King,
Letters to the Queen, *Jermin* and *Percy*, to perſuade the King to give the Scots
ſatisfaction.

These return, that however things ſeemed to them, yet the King was reſolved
to give the Scots ſatisfaction; and to that end a Treaty was appointed at *Jer-
sey*, and *Percy* adviſed theſe to ſend one from hence to the Treaty: and moreo-
ver, that if the King and his Privy Council could not agree there, hee would remove
the Treaty to *Breda*, and at laſt cast himſelf upon the Scot's Commissioners.

B

Accordingly,

Accordingly an Agent was considered of, and concluded (viz.) Capt. *Titus*, who was sent from these to Jersey, and an hundred pound raised amongst them to bear his charges, where hee spake with the said King, and *Liberton* the Scot's Commissioner told him from what Party hee was sent from England, represented the Presb. party considerable, had assurance & a Letter from the King to the Ministers, and Presbyterian party here, that he would give satisfaction to the Scots; to that end the Treaty was removed to Breda, whither hee adviseth them to send Commissioners, and that hee took notice of their non-compliance with the present Power.

The Treaty being ended, *Titus* hearing that the Council of State understood that hee had been at Jersey, durst not go for England, but sends a Letter among other things for one to come to him at Calais, to receive the Account of his Agencie.

Upon the reading whereof, these here agree and send Major *Alford* to Calais, who having received of *Titus* the account of Transactions, returned, and to these persons that sent him gives the relation thereof; the Copy of the King's Letter aforesaid (the Original being sent to *Bunce* in Holland for fear of miscarriage) *Titus* his Narrative also in writing, which were all of them then Communicated; also that *Titus* was in debt, having borrowed some money of *Jermin*.

This occasioned the drawing of a Commission, enabling the Lord *Willoughby* of Parham, Alderman *Bunce*, Maj. Gen. *Massey*, Capt. *Titus* to treat in the name of the Presbyterian partie in Engl. with the King at Breda, and to assist their brethen the Scots; and when it was moved by some what power they had to send a Commission, it was answered, the King had sent to them so to do, and they had also many secluded members, whose Authority they look'd upon better then those at Westminster; which together with Instructions thereunto annex't, were sent by *Mason* the Lord *Percy*'s servant, who came hither on purpose to give the King of Scots an Account of proceedings, and at Gravesend had those papers brought him by three of the Correspondents.

Letters also were drawn and sent to the Queen, *Percy*, *Jermin*, Lord *Willoughby*, *Massey*, *Bunce* &c. to forward the Agreement, and to act as Authorized; and *Titus* had more money.

And now the Busynesse being put into a fair way of issue, Private Fasts are by them appointed to pray for a blessing on the Treaty, and for the continuation of the Agreement afterwards.

Percy write's to them to lend 10000 l. to the King which would add much to the Agreement, and one Minister moved a way by which it might bee raised, (viz.) the Ministers to move their friends, Sr, you shall give mee 20 30 40 50 l. &c. for a charitable use, but you shall not ask mee wherefore, but because they were not assured of the King's giving satisfaction, it was forborn.

Signibrook A

This

This Treatie produced the end endeavored, the King send's his Letters to several of the Ministers that if they could not live quietly here they should com to him, 3 or 4 also hee desired might bee his Chaplains, and give's instructions to his Gen. Agent Mr. Cook to treat them civilly, to give Letters to them, and the Presbyterians in the Citie of London from him, and to press them to action.

The Scots having got the King into their hands prepare as they had promised at *Breda*, to rais Arms to put him in the throne of England, but nor *Massey*, *Titus*, or the English were considered, whose Interest in the Presbyterian partie in England was made use of to bring them together.

This *Massey* &c. complain's of to these here, who very ill resented it, and thereupon send's a long Letter to the Kirk and State complaining thereof, attributing it to their pride, laying open in what condition they were in, this with much more was wrot in sack in a table-book and sent thither.

The fight at *Dunbar* follow's, after which rout, the Scots court this partie again, the Kirk and State and *Massey* write by sea and land to those here, signifie the caus of the rout, advise them to stand fast to the Caus and Covenant, desireth monie and 3 or 5000 muskets and case of Pistols also, which *Massey* & *Titus* particularly pressed to becaus of their wants.

The Correspondents aforesaid considered of this Letter, and agreed at present to rais about 300 l. to send to *Massey* and *Titus*, which the Correspondents performed by 0 l. 5 l. a man &c; A Letter was also returned to the Kirk and State, and *Massey* by these here.

Upon this the Correspondencies began to have life again; and the Scot's preparations to bee in the field were signified hither, advise also to those here to caution, stedfastnes, timeing of a partie seasonably here; to write to the Kirk for union, &c.

These return the same Cautions, advise *Massey* to take heed how hee came into England, and that hee bring with him a strong partie.

Returns also com from Scotland of the receipts of the mony, and the Letters to the Kirk and State before mentioned, how seasonable it was, how much union it affected, broke the designs of the advers partie, and how considerable it made them.

Ways of sending intelligence by land were also signified and made use of.

At length in March last came an answer to what was signified in sack in the table-book aforesaid by Col. Bampfield's man, which gave an account of the state of Scotland; Letters also came in the said packet from Mr Bayly (their former Correspondent in the behalf of the Kirk) and from Belcaris, Argyle, Loudon, and Lothian wishing these here to give credit to Bampfield's negotiation, because he was a Cavalier, p[ro]f[es]s[or] for 5 or 1000 l. in monie to buie Arms to furnish, and ships to bring over 3000 old souldiers, proposes a General to bee chosen by these here, and promise repairement when God shall bless their endeavors so as to caus a free Parliament in England: the Agent was returned with monie in his pocket, and a Bill of Exchange to Bampfield, whose designs at large upon what place in England and by whom the men were to bee furnished, Cap. Titus Letters brought by his man to the Lord Ambassadors for England then at the Hague, doth speak at large.

Presently upon this Packet to them from Bampfield Cooke was taken, Capt. Poste one of the Correspondents imprisoned, Titus Letters brought in by his man, and afterward some others were apprehended, which put a stop to their Proceedings.

Then the verie relation, (which is truth in every particular) there need's no other demonstration of the dangerousness of this Treason, and the effect thereof, the present war in Scotland, and what hath and may ensue thereupon: For nor would the King have trusted the Scot, nor the Scot medled with the King to put him in his Fathers dominions, but that the Influence of this third partie in England warm'd them thereunto, and this, were it needfull, would bee largely demonstrated.

Nor is it amiss to hint a word of the private and subtil transaction of these designes:

The chief correspondents of this fourm now discovered (for there is another above them, which one time or other the world will understand) were men tenaciously fixt to the designe upon a pretended conscientious and a religious Principle, having the Ministers also in greatest admiration, many of them Souldiers, and who had once served in the Army.

Their

Their meetings were upon pretence of religious Exercises; the places either in shops of Commerce, or Ministers studies.

The waie of communicating the design by waie of news, seldoni anie Letters produced in their Originals but by Copies, and that mostly in Characters, which for som time were kept in a Book; the person from whom it came as seldoni asked, that beeing generally known; nor were anie to enquire of names.

The Contribution of monie was under the pretext of charitable uses; for the widdows and Orphanes, a poor distressed Gentleman beyond the Seas, this monie brought in bags or papers, laid down in ware-houses, studies and Chambers, but nothing said, nor anie seen to receiv it.

And the better to accomplish their ends, another Generation of men were trained up at a Club, where they were instructed as occasion served by som of the Cabinet Council, that they might serv their ends; All which doth exceedingly advance the goodness of God in the discoverie of these works of darkness, and therein shewing his tender care of this Common-wealth.

2. For what Mr *Love* is concerned herein(to saie nothing of what preceded *Titus* his going to *Jarsey*) *Titus* Letter signifying his fearfulness to com to England, and desiring one to bee sent to *Callais* to receiv an account of his negotiation at *Jersey* was read in his hous, where hee was present with divers others; and where they concluded to send one thither to *Titus*.

The person that was sent to *Titus* and returned, gave an account of his Journie in Mr *Love's* studie, where Mr *Love* was present and manie others; and where was read *Titus* narration, in waie of a Diarie of proceedings at *Jersey*, the Copie of the King's Letter, as is mentioned before, there the Commission, Instructions, Letters before mentioned, were read, debated, and concluded; and when som debate was had, concerning what autoritie they had to send a Commission, beeing single persons, and it was answered, the King having sent to them, so to do was Autoritie sufficient; Mr *Love* said com, com, let it goe.

Their Letters were read, which were agreed to bee sent to *Scotland*, upon *Massie's* complaint of neglect in *Scotland*, there the Letters from *Massy*, Committees of Estates, Gen. Assemblie, were read after the fight at *Dunbar*, which desired monie, assistance, Arms, There Mr *Love* pressed for the raising of monie upon those letters(*viz.*) four or five hundred pounds, saying, that if they could not rais it themselvs, they must with their friends; and spake to som to lend on that account, signifying the contents of the Letter, for monie, Arms, &c. and from whom; the summe beeing brought down to about three hundred pounds; there som of the monie was brought in, and laid down in his roome, where hee was present; there som of the faits aforesaid were kept, and hee officiated at the same Faits at other places. There the packet from *Bampfield* was read, having a Letter (L) on it; the Letters also therein from *Belcarris Loudoun*,

Argyle Baylie, and moving for five or ten thousand pounds for the furnishing of Arms, and shipping for five thousand old souldiers, to bee brought from beyond the Sea; the time when it should bee repai'd, and moving for a Gen. to bee nominated by them for those men; there fourtie pound was thought convenient by him and others, to bee sent to Bampfeild; ten pounds to Bampfeild's man was paid, and thirtie pounds by Bill of Exchange, sent to Bampfeild, and a Letter wrote with (B) on it, brought to Captain Potter for Bampfield, and said by the partie that left it at Potters, that it came from Mr Love; Mr Love and another beeing before spoke to draw up the Letter, and at all these meetings and transactions Mr Love was present, discoursed, debated at them; and at several other meetings also at his hous, concerning the same designs, which I shall not now add, becaus I suppose a full narrative thereof will bee published to the world, and I intend this for no other then a short account of what was depos'd against Mr Love.

Nor shall I summe this up together, or draw from it conclusions that will naturally arise, leaving that to the Readers observation, it lying so plainly; onely I shall leav it to the Reader's Judgment, whether Mr Love's appearing in the substantial part of this design, as is before mentioned at large, wherein a messenger is sent to *Titus* their Agent, his negotiation received, the reading, debateing, and concluding of a Commission, and Instructions to persons to treat with the King at Breda; Monie rais'd, Letters sent and received from *Scotland* for Ammunition, &c. and other correspondencies, even to March last, do not intitle him to the first part thereof, (if not to his privity then) yet to his consenting afterward; for hee that entreth into the substantial part of a design, is legally included in the whole, and then whether, hee bee not guiltie of the whole transaction, which hath produced the war in *Scotland*, and which war hee hath abettet and assisted.

3. For his demeanor from the time of his first examination to this daie. I had rather burie in silence (beeing so unlike a man, a Minister and a Christian) then to discover to the world his infirmities, and indeed shall not make that my work farther then is necessarie to the point of safetie, and therein according to what I first proposed.

At his Examination, hee refused to answer to Questions asked him in points of Treason, according to the Informations against him, either as to what concern'd himself before Evidence was produced; or what concerned others, saying, that hee would not bee an Informer, though the old Law of *England* require's that a Traitor answer Yea or No, and that hee discover other Traitors also, nor would hee signe his Examination, whereto hee had made some denyall.

When

When hee came to the Barr; Hee made three dreadfull Protestations, before God, Angels, and men; That hee never wrote Letter to the King, Queen, *Fermin, Percie, Titus, Maffey, &c.* That hee never received Letter from any of them; That hee never contributed any monie, nor gathered any for the King, &c. or *Maffey, Titus, &c.* which desperate prevarication, if there were no more said, is enough to convince every serious man of the falsitie of his heart; Though it is not proved that hee wrote Letters with his own hand, yee hee heard the Letters read that were sent, and consented to their going to *Scotland, &c.* Though it is not proved that hee received any Letters with his own hand (though that from *Bampfield* endorsed (L) carried and read in his House, may easily bee beleeved to bee directed to himself) yet hee was present at the reading of them; and preffed the answering of the contents of some of them as to monie, &c. Though it is not proved that hee contributed any monie with his own hand, and gathered it for the uses aforesaid, yet it is proved that hee press'd at the meetings in his house for the raising of monie, and that of considerable summes, spoke to particular men so to do, and part of the monie was brought and left in his house in his presence. And hereby let any sober man judge of his spirit, and the truth of what hee would affirm, Every ordinary understanding know's, that a man write's when hee consent's to write, receive's when hee agree's to what is received, especially where many are joyn'd in the advice, and what is sent, and received. Parlaments, Counsels, other Communities, so write, so receive, either by their Secretarie, or another person: And thus Mr *Love* knows hee did write, hee did receive, hee did contribute, and yet that hee might delude God, Angels, and men, (but the former will not bee mockt) hee come's forth with these knowing falsehoods and Prevarications, not only at first but at last before his sentence, where hee would have pin'd that lie upon the hearts of all the Spectators, after the proof had passed, and himself confess'd that many meetings were at his house, where some such things as were mentioned in the charge were read and debated, particularly where the Commission in the name of the Presbyterian Partie in *England*, authorizing the Lord *Willaughby, &c.* was read, it beeing in his studie.

I tremble to think what a reckoning this will amount to, when God shall let M. *Love* see what hee hath done.

Mr. *Love* would have denied the jurisdiction of the Court, if he had not remembred what it cost his Master *Charles*, against whose Authoritie M^r *Love* is, as well as that Tyrant was; then he pleaded (when there was no remedie) not guiltie, behaving himself exceeding haughtily, prevaricating uncivilly, which reached not onlie the witnesses, but the Atturnie-General, the Council for the State, the Council of State, and the Court: would acknowledge nothing; no: hee said hee would die before hee would accuse any man; and said, hee would answer to no question. In his defence hee presented his Innocency, and his Principles, (*viz.*) wholly contrary to the present Government; and with what Rhetorick and Argument hee could endeavor to persuade the people and confirm them in the same opinion; What hee had done, hee said was according to the Covenant, and in simplicity of heart, though before hee had confes't what is above mentioned (his ingenuity beeing only to acknowledge what was clearly proved, for which the State will not thank him) hee said, that it was according to his Judgment and Conscience that Religion and Liberty would bee more advanc't by the King's coming in by the Scots then by the Irish, (so that hee should come in one way or other, was his Judgment and Conscience; but rather by the Scots, and by the Scots the King is endeavouring it, which hath produced this war,) and hee said, that the Covenant lead him to pray for the union of both Nations, and the *Scots* having chosen the King to pray for him, and against Incendiaries; also that his Principles were according to the Vows & Declarations of both Houses of Parliament, and for such an unquestionable Authoritie he is willing to adventure as before; that if the ends of the first Warr had been kept, it would have bin more for the glorie, peace, and honor of the Nation, he saith, that doing Aets of justice upon Political accounts, though the matter of Fact were true, is not justice, but murder; instancing (but most falsly) in the case of *Jehu*, then threatens the Court, that if they take away his life, they will shed innocent bloud, and God will require it at their hands.

VWhen the Sentence was come to be given, he continued as before, would have had his confessions of concealment to bee onlie misprision of

of Treason; excepted against the witnesses, and protested that he knew no designs, or persons designing in *England* or out of *England*; nor the place where, or the time when anie invasions will be made on this Nation; and after Sentence, that God and his conscience condemn'd him not.

Since the receiving of his Sentence, in his Petition to the Parliament for mercie, he offers not to compensate his offences, by his discovering what he knew of the traitors in the same confederacie, though he had confessed nothing before his Sentence but what was proved, nor al that neither; & since his sentence, his future testimonie is invalid, nor doth he acknowledg the Authoritie or the laws by which he was judged, to be the Laws of the Land, but by (*Your*) Laws I am justly condemned; which his brother Mr *Calamie* instructed him in, on *Mundaie* last in the Tower, perhaps to put Mr *Love* out of all hopes of mercie, that his good tricks and the rest of his close Brethren might not come to light, and so Mr *Love*'s head might burie their walkings in the dark; *But God is a consuming fire, and he will bring everie work to judgment.* By all what hath bin said, doth plainlie appear, that as Mr *Love*'s Treasons against this State, were done out of judgment and conscience, and according to the Covenant: so even to this day, he remains of the same opinion; which principle, how dangerous it is to this Common-wealth, upon comparing the present effects thereof in this warr, and what fadder issues it may have, is easie to judg.

3. For the Partie this case respects, it runs through generally the whol Ministerie of the Nation, and that not so much those that are in Wolves cloathing, but the Angels of Light, men of great repute for godli-
ness, religion, learning, activitie formerly for the Parliament, who have so great opportunities by preaching, such influence as the Oracles of God, as the very Scripture; they are distributed throughout all *Eng-*
land, engaging people upon a religious tye, of Conscience and the Co-
venant, to extirpate this government, and blowing up the turbulent
breasts of all discontented persons, to burn this Common-wealth, and themselves; and how farr they have prevailed herein, and what
mischief it hath produced, the present face of affairs will evince.

These are they that when with one heart and hand wee were folowing the common enemie; made the first division, upon the account of

D

their

their own dominion, this set deserving men against deserving men, and those that yesterday were like Brothers jointly, brandishing their swords against a common enemie, are now readie to run their swords in one anothers bowels: it would be endless to reckon up, how dissenters from them, who had more Scripture for their practise then Presbiterie, and as much or more merit to plead for their preferment, then the others, were turn'd out of places of trust, both Civil and Militarie, how the new model notwithstanding all their faithfulness and service was endeavoured to be broke, how the Armie was first ordered to lie before *Oxford*, when the *Scots* who were appointed to wait on the King retreated to *Westmorland*; what workings there were to bring in the Earl of *Essex* again upon the head of the Armie, and the *Scots* Armie to effect it, which his sudden death prevented; what shibboleths were made: what consultations had to destroy them: witness the Ordinance against blasphemie, &c. What endeavors to break the Armie, and leaving *Ireland* in its blood, that it might serve as a checque to the Armie, for which end my Lord *Lisle* was remaundered, after the expence of a 100000 pounds for his expedition, assoon almost as his foot was set on that Island, and delivering all into the power of *Inchiquen*, who immediatly gave it to the King, and what it had like to have cost, let the season when nothing but *Dublin* remained in the Parliaments power, and that close besieged, speake; for the successes there and in *England* these people would neither pray for, nor give thanks, looking upon them as Judgements.

It would require a volume to discourse how Regiments pretended for *Ireland*, were kept a yeer about on the Countrie, on pretence of wanting opportunitie of transportation, but intended to ballance or break the Armie, how the breach of the Armie was endeavored, how they were voted Traytors, but upon the Report of an humble Petition, that was said to bee amongst them, and then part of them were ordered for *Ireland* under other Officers, not in mercie or relief for that Countrie (for som chief Officers declared that they intended no such thing) but to destroy the Armie: Mr *Nichols* said the Ministers put them on this against the Armie, making it no less then damnation, to send Schismatics into *Ireland*; and then how were garrisons emptied of friends to the Armie, som dismantled where such persons were governors, the Mi-

Militia & other Arms, Ammunition & Artillery seiz'd, that it might be Treason for any to touch them, afterwards the Irish Regiments ordered to bee drawn up against the Armie, and had put an end to all, had not God prevented to admiration, in raising up the hearts of the Soulder at *Triple-heath* ; After this, a company of boyes were raised and encouraged to put force upon the hous, which was the first and unparalleled affront that ever was put on them ; an Army upon that raised in *London*, and the Citie fortified which brought forth a new warr, after that a Treaty must be had with the King, and the *Scots* Armie come into *England* (though *Hamiltons* hand only made it an unlawful thing, for 'twas not an invasion, but what hand should effect it was the Question) the Lords would not declare against it, the Citie Petitions for it, the House of Commons staggering whether the *Scots* should bee voted Enemies or no ; Even when the Lord General *Cromwell* was drawn forth to fight them, the Navie was then broken, which is not recovered to this day.

Cap. *Batten* petitioned to be Vice-Admiral, who had before that time received a Commission from the Prince ; the *militia* unsettled, though insurrections were everie where, and when granted, through the importunitie of manie, yet gave not power to kill and slay, and though that insurrections were everie where, *Hamilton* and others in the field for the King, about 100000 that summer, yet none of them stirr'd to repell them, though our Forces fought mostly 2000 to 10000, and that from Pembroke to Edinborough ; then by a Treatie all was endeavored to bee effected and the King's Concessions voted in order to peace, and the Armie intended to have been voted Traitors, and then the Hous to adjourn to accomplish force by the King and their own partie to have destroied the Armie, and the honest Interest, and all by a partie on whom their Influence so far prevailed to act those things and when God put by all their mischievous intents, brought Justice on the King, and chang'd the Government through much mercy, they fall presently point blanck into the King's Interest, and plot, and contrive the destruction thereof, through the Treasons now brought by the finger of God to light, and which are shortly touched before ; and upon the Armies march into Scotland took off the former Lord Gen. *Fairfax* from keeping his Commission, thereby hoping to hinder (at least)

least) our timely march to that Country; and to these you may add the Lords, and many thousand other persons who did gallantly in their generation, whom these mens violence, because they cannot lord it over State and Conscience, have led into a general disaffection to this present Authority, whom they have entitled to the Malignant Caus, and laid the Guilt thereof upon their shoulders, and all upon the Account of Religion and the Covenant; which had I time I should answer to the full. M^r Love's blood runs through these mens veins, his Principles are theirs, and who expect his success in this trial as an encouragement, or disheartning to their future treasonable proceedings.

4. For the mischiefs that threaten the Common-wealth in all, though what hath been said already may seem enough for this particular, yet give mee leave to add,

1. That the designes herein mentioned are the highest Acts of Treasons, that hath in this generation, or in many ages before been brought to the Bar of Justice, except that of the late Kings.

2. They are carried upon the pretence of the Covenant, and enforced with a Religious tye on the hearts of many who otherwise are truely godly, and have done good service for the Common-wealth, which makes it the more dangerous.

3. They are Principles generally of the Ministry of the Nation,whose Pulpits have served for Trumpets of Sedition and Rebellion,when they should have sounded out the Gospel only, and these as they have gathered the hearts of the people against their Governors, so som of them are drawn into the field to destroy this State: no people but such as these could rationally have disturbed the peace of the Common-wealth (the King's partie and the Scots being a dead snake without their warmth) and never will this State bee at peace, whil'st their intermedling with State affairs is not effectually restrained, & herein lies the great interest of the safety of the people.

4. Should not Exemplary Justice be done, how will the hearts of men bee set to do mischief? how will people bee encouraged to plot, and design? when will this State bee free from wars and destruction? how will this Generation of men bee emboldned in their Rebellion to this State? The Pulpits can scarce hold them already, the Seat of Government will not shortly be able to hold those in Autority, how will the Justice and Providence of God bee answered, & the ruine that this war hath and may bring upon this Nation and Scotland? and how will men have occasion to hear and fear, and do no more so wickedly.

5. To what end do wee search into the designes of men, and the Providence

of

of God serve to the detection of their works of Darknesse, if these go unpunished; but if not to give them a name of doing bus (as now nothing)

6. What Encouragement shall your Armies have to fight with your Enemies, when those that occasion that war shall bee convict, and yet go unpunished? Every drop of bloud of your Souldiers shed should be as out of your veins, and every hardship as your own.

7. To what end are the constitutions of humane Society, if men may refuse to answer to questions upon Informations of Treasons when asked, to inform against other Traitors and offenders if required, and to refuse to swear before the Magistrate when by him demanded for the bearing witness against Traitors, such Principles as these nor *Strafford*, nor *Canterbury* held forth, an A& of Parliament was made for their Execution, these have offended many Acts already made, and brought a terrible war upon this Nation; Can a Commonwealth, and these things stand?

I shall forbear to add farther, everie man's reason from the Premisses will easily draw what conclusions do arise: there is a rare opportunitie put into the hand of the State, to curb and extirpate the licentiousness of the Clergie, in what concern's the affairs of the State; likewise to let men know at what rate they shall buie their Treasons, and hereby to establish the Commonwealth; the Lord grant that in this our daie wee may know the things that concern our peace.

Upon the consideration of the whole, to mee it is great matter of amazement, to see men, good men, men that give sentence as to life and death, to bee turning everie Stone, and so earnestly solliciting for favor to these Traitors, when they thereby shew what little sence of the Common farrtie, the bloud-shed, and the executing of Justice is upon their heart; were the war brought home to their own doors, the swords at their throats, their friends and relations weltring in their bloud; their Estates and friends plundred, and undon, their houses and Cities burnt to the ground; their Virgins and Matrons ravish't, and deflour'd, and all manner of wickedness acted upon them, and before their eies; were they but forc't to eat the peas the horses do leav on the ground, and the intrails of the sheep, which is becom the poor Scotch people's portion; or indure what ours have with bread and water (if they could have it) in midst of winter, when they lie in the field, in the rain, wet, and cold, where they have nor fire nor shelter (all which hath been the portion of our dear friends, who are as precious in the eies of the Lord as our selvs, or anie of those for whom these are advocates) they would then bee of another minde; but whilst wee can enjoie our beds, wives, Families, offices, riches, without the nois of war, or the sence of the purs (which manie thousands feel in the Contribution for the mainteining of these forces) And have not the grim faces of slauthred men, and their famished Families staring us in the face; wee foolishly prefer two or three men's persons (the occasioners

occasioners of these things) before the lives of thousands, and the safetie of a Common-wealth, and which is more, the serving of God in the doing of Justice.

Tis strange to see how men dare to appear in the behalf of such Traitors, nay, speak for them in places of Eminencie ; these things will have a sad reckoning one daie ; when your Fathers executed Justice (said the Prophet to the Jews) was it well with them ? certainly Treason must bee a rougher thing then to bee thus handled : or the head of the Common-wealth will bee laid in the grave ; and for such persons, their language seem's to bee after the manner of *Aſbdod*, and their hearts beeing divided, they shall not prosper.

But blessed bee the Lord there bee manie faithful Patriots of a Presbyterian judgment who defie these works of darkness, and who testifie against them, and whom these men falsly intitle to their Treasons, by using the name of the Presbyterian partie, and there are also manie thousand other, more also I trust will bee convinc't ; when the Ministers mists are from before their eies.

To conclude, I can appeal to the Lord, that in this I have no bitterness or prejudice to anie man's person, onely out of a deep sence of common safetie. I delight not in the blood of anie much less of a state, but seeing what practises there are in the world, and what sad issues may proceed from thence, how few also tender common safetie, in this shaking time, I have been conſtreined to this, wherein verie much more might bee ſaid, and having born my testimonie I am ſatisfied, deſiring rather to fall with justice then ſtand without it, and the Lord do with this diſcourſe as it ſeemeth good unto him.

*Praie for the peace of Jerusalem, they ſhall proſper
that love it.*

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